THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Satisfactory maintenance of various passenger facilities at the airports being a continuous process is carried out in a regular and systematic manner.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) conducts customer satisfaction survey at all international airports and major domestic airports to ascertain the satisfaction level of the passengers and other airports users, which also includes tourists. As per the survey conducted in 2004, the customer satisfaction level at the international airports was about 70% . Whenever specific complaints are received from passengers, these are attended to.

(c) AAI has launched the 'Airport Improvement Initiative' under which 25 airports including the 11 international airports have been identified for improving the aesthetics and house-keeping of the terminal buildings and cityside facilities. Government has also taken up restructuring of airports of Delhi and Mumbai through joint venture route to bring them at par with international standards besides modernisation and upgradation of twenty five Non-Metro airports.

Air misses

445. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of air misses during the last three months;

(b) the outcome of the enquiry in each case; and

(c) the steps taken to avoid air misses in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) A total of eight air misses have been reported to Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) since August, 2004. While investigations on three air misses have been completed, the investigation on remaining five air misses are yet to be completed by DGCA.

(b) In one incident the pilot did not adhere to flight level as assigned by Air Traffic Controller. In second incident "on the job trainee" issued wrong clearance to the aircraft. In third incident TCAS/RA warning apears to have trigered due to high closure rate of two aircraft.

(c) To avoid air misses, instruments like Minimum Safe Altitude Warning System in Radars, Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radars (MSSRs)

at airports, Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS) in aeroplane and Transponders etc. are already in place.

Provision of modern ILS at Srinagar Airport

446. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to upgrade Srinagar Airport and also to provide for state-of-the-art Instrument Landing System there so as to enable the pilots to negotiate the foggy weather; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the funds required for the purposes, separately and by when work on the projects is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Srinagar airport belongs to Indian Air Force where Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a Civil Enclave. Modification and expansion work for terminal building alongwith associated facilities has already been undertaken to handle 500 domestic and 450 international passengers at a cost of approximately Rs. 78 crores. Work is likely to be completed by December 2006.

Indian Air Force has already provided Instrument Landing System (ILS) at Srinagar airport. AAI has no plan to provide the same at Srinagar airport.

Enquiry into ONGC helicopter crash

447. SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level committee appointed by Government after the crash of ONGC helicopter in Arabian Sea on the 11th August, 2004 has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by this committee; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total of 21 recommendations have been made by the Inspector of Accidents in his investigation report. Some of the important recommendations are (i) using of helidecks with restricted weight operations